

GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

REVISED BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION POLICY

Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' ~Matthew 25:40

April 2, 2024

Drafted Meeting Date

March 26, 2024

Michael Caccamo - Superintendent of Education of NCC, Safe Schools, Continuing Education, Religious Accommodations

Derek Luk, Senior Policy Advisor

Shazia Vlahos, Chief Communications Officer, Policy, Govt Relations & Strategy

RECOMMENDATION REPORT

Vision: *IN GOD'S IMAGE: Growing in* Knowledge, with Justice and Hope.

Mission: Nurturing the faith development and academic excellence of our Catholic learning community through the love of God, neighbour, and self.



Brendan Browne

Director of Education

Adrian Della Mora

Associate Director of Academic Affairs & Chief Operating Officer

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Associate Director of Corporate Services and Chief Commercial Officer

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Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report recommends updating the current Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy (previously identified as SS.11) to align with changes made to PPM 144 Bullying Prevention and Intervention issued November 25, 2021.

This Policy has been reviewed through a trauma-informed equity lens and updates include terms that reflect prohibited grounds of discrimination in Ontario, feedback from parent/guardian stakeholders, recommendations from the January 10, 2023, and February 7, 2023 Governance and Policy (GAP) Committee. Recommended updates include the addition of Procedural Guidelines for Bullying Prevention and Intervention.

B. PURPOSE

1. This Recommendation Report is on the GAP Order Paper as it recommends revision to the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy (*Appendix A*).

C. BACKGROUND

1. During the February 7, 2023 GAP meeting, the committee made the following recommendation:

That the revised Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy SS.11 provided in Appendix A, and the accompanying Procedural Guidelines found in *Appendix B*, be sent out for consultation with parent groups such as Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (CPIC), Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) and Catholic School Parent Councils (CSPCs)

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

In late April 2023, a tracked policy and a clean version were provided to the parent/guardian groups noted above for feedback. Input on the draft updated policy was collected from late April to early June 2023 via an online survey.

While the vast majority noted the policy and procedural guideline were easy to understand, some noted the need for clearer language and more specific examples to be cited. The policy has therefore been updated to reflect this feedback.

E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. As per the five year review cycle, the next review will occur in 2029.

F. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

1. Staff recommends that the revised Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy provided in Appendix A, be approved along with the accompanying procedural guidelines found in Appendix B.